NOTICE OF REJECTION

Patent Application Number	2005-014967
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Applicable Article(s)	36 (indefinite)

This application should be rejected because of the reasons shown below. When you would have opinion against them, please file your opinion within three months from the date of dispatch.

REASON

Claims of this application do not meet the requirement provided in the patent law article 36-6-2 (indefinite) at the points below.

[Reason]

1. Claims 1-3:

1 – 1.

"The write control server (230) implements a write permission queue to regulate write operations of the host computers (216, 220)" is described in Claim 1.

And, description above can be understood that the write control server (230) "regulates" the "write operations" by "implementing" the "write permission queue".

However, it can not be understood what "implementing a write permission queue" means.

Because queue generally means "waiting queue" in Japanese, so queue can be "positioned", but queue can not be "implemented".

In addition, the relationship between "implementing a write permission queue" and "regulating write operations" is not clear.

1 – 2.

"A reverse handicapping routine" is described in Claim 1.

However, generally, "handicap" means "burden condition imposed on excellent person to make odds even in the tournament" and like or "disadvantage condition" (cited from an ordinary Japanese dictionary (IWANAMI SHOTEN Corporation, "KOUJIEN", fifth edition)).

Therefore, for example, "handicap" makes a person who runs faster start later in the competitive race.

And, the meaning of the "reverse handicapping routine" is unclear, because it seems to have reverse meaning of "handicap".

("A reverse handicapping routine" is described in Claim 3 as well, and the meaning of Japanese translation of "compensate" is unclear.

Specifically, it is unclear that "compensate" means "making something "bigger" or "making something smaller".)

1 – 3.

"The write control server (230) implements a write permission queue to regulate write operations of the host computers (216, 220) and implements a reverse handicapping routine when positioning the write requests in the write permission queue." is described in Claim 1.

However, the relationship between "regulating write operations" and "implementing a reverse handicapping routine" is unclear.

For example, if a method "regulates" write operations by not inserting "write operations" into "a write permission queue", it seems that "implementing a reverse handicapping routine" has no technical meaning.

Because Claims 2 and 3 are referring to Claim 1, it is recognized that Claims 2 and 3 comprise the same constitution as indicated in Reason 1-1, 1-2, and 1-3.

2. Claims 4 and 5:

"A reverse handicapping routine" is described in Claim 4 as well, and this description is unclear with same reason as Reason 1-2.

Because Claim 5 is referring to Claim 4, it is recognized that Claim 5 comprises the constitution above.

3. Claim 6:

"Storing the write requests in a write permission queue comprises storing the write requests in order based on the time stamps" is described in Claim 6.

However, Claim 6 is referring to Claim 4 and the relationship between "a reverse handicapping routine" described in Claim 4 and "storing the write request in order based on the time stamps" is unclear.

4. Claim 7:

"Retrieving the time stamp from the status signal associated with the failed write operation" is described in Claim 7.

However, Claim 7 is referring to Claims 4 and 5, and it is unclear that which time stamp is indicated by "the time stamp" described in Claim 7 referring to Claims 4 and 5.

-Record of Prior Art Search

-The technical field searched: IPC G06F 3/06

G06F 13/10

-Prior Art:

A. JP Publication of Unexamined Patent Application (PUPA) 2003-330622

B. JP PUPA 2003-316616

C. International Publication 03/083678

D. JP PUPA 2003-167683

E. JP PUPA H09-0814132

-The result of this prior art search is not a part of the reason of rejection.

Please contact to the below when you would ask for detailed information of this notice or interview.

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